

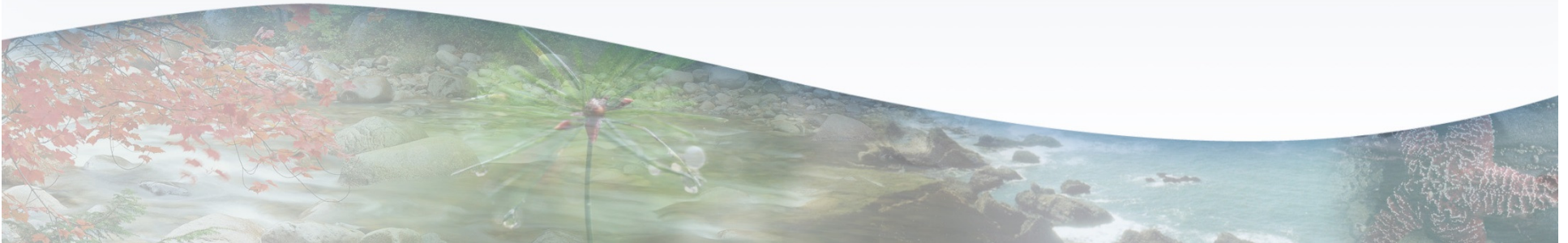
Groundwater/Surface Water Update Amendment

Agenda Items No. 8 & 9

North Coast Regional Water
Quality Control Board Meeting

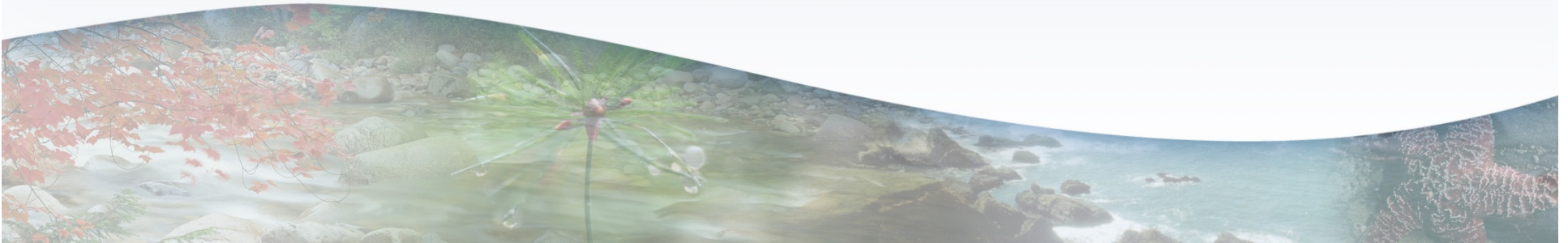
June 13, 2013

Alydda Mangelsdorf - Senior E.S.



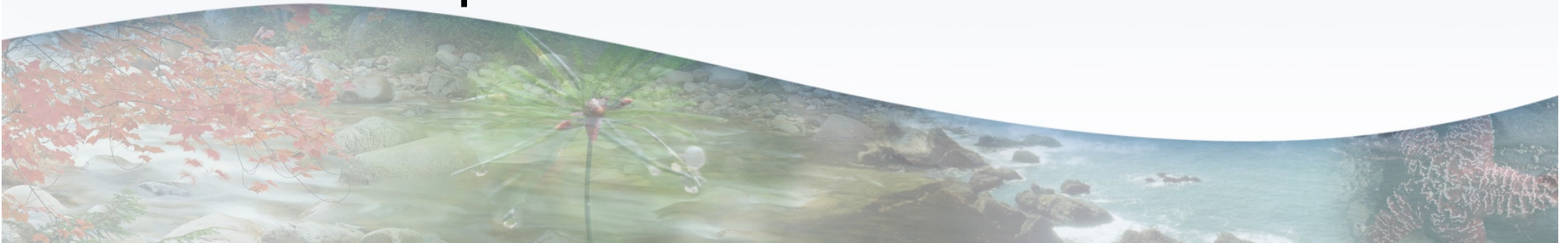
Goal of the Amendment

- To amend the Basin Plan to better support the activities of permitting and site cleanup staff when issuing permits and orders for the protection of groundwater quality.
- To provide greater clarity and transparency to dischargers and the public regarding our groundwater protection program.



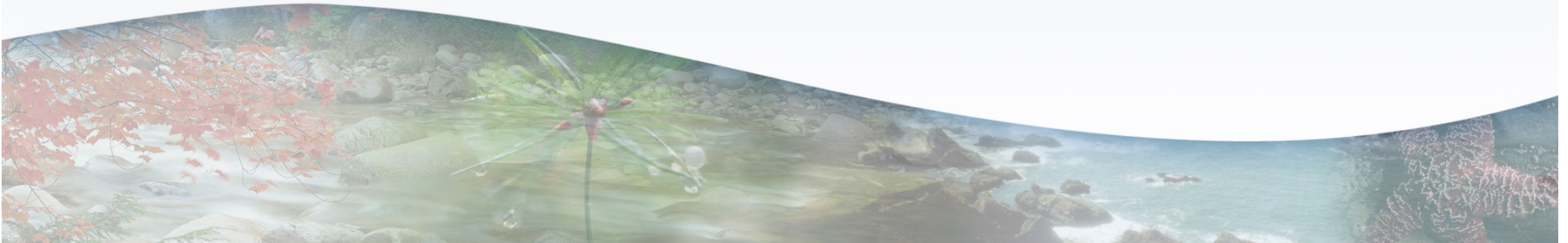
Overview of Presentation

- Introduction-- Groundwater in the North Coast Region
- Regulatory Background
- Basin Planning Approach
- Phase I – Water Quality Objectives Update
- Phase II –Update of Groundwater Policies and Action Plans
- Next Steps



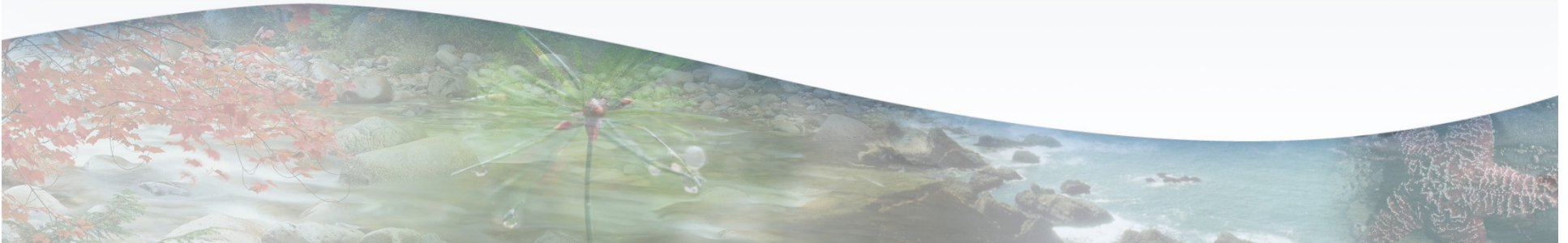
Primary Contacts

- Phase I – Water Quality Objectives
 - Lauren Clyde, SEA
- Phase II – Policies/Action Plans
 - Jeremiah Puget, ES
- Basin Planning
 - Alydda Mangelsdorf, Senior ES



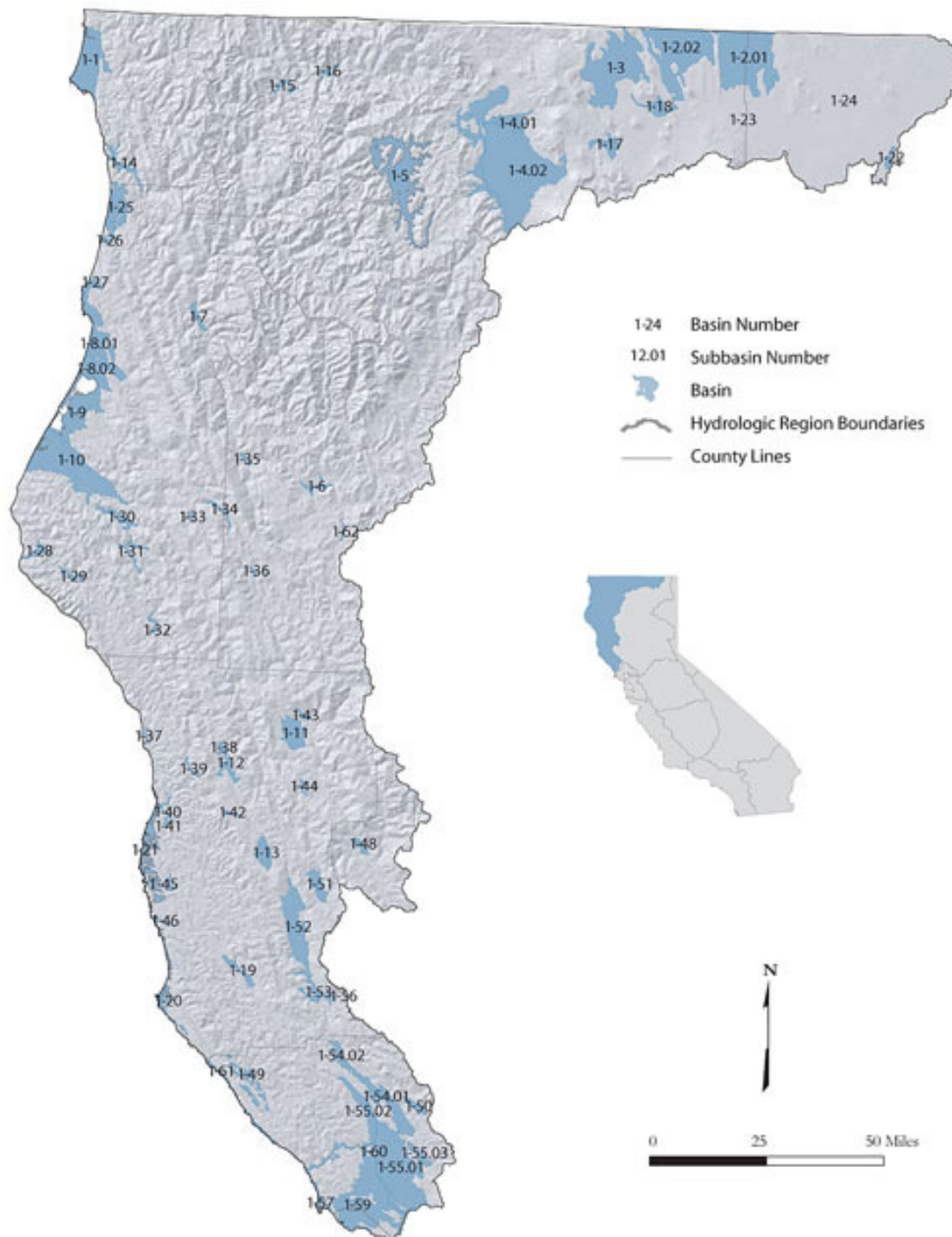
Introduction

- 62 groundwater basins— municipal supply
- GAMA Priority Basins Study— Interior and Coastal wells
 - Detected VOCs, pesticides, perchlorate, trace elements, nitrates, and radiation in a subset of wells
 - Only arsenic, barium, boron and iron above MCLs (naturally derived)
 - Nitrates approaching MCLs in a few wells



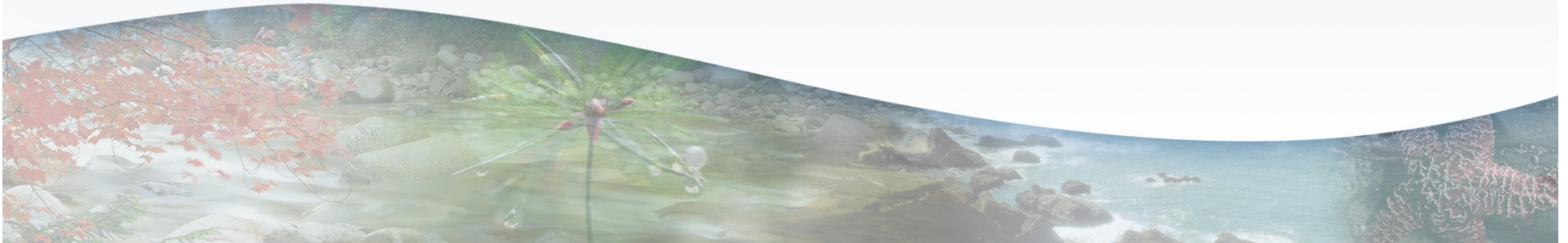
Groundwater basins of the North Coast Region

From
DWR Bulletin 118



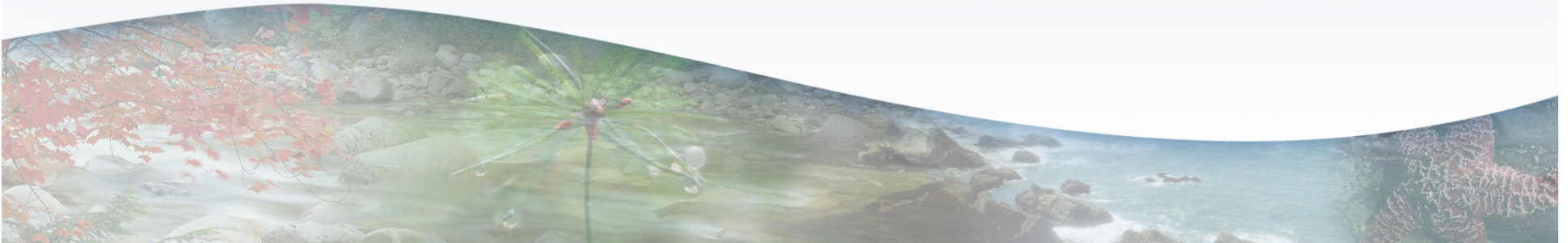
Introduction (cont'd)

- Domestic and agricultural supply-- shallow groundwater
- Shallow groundwater also supplies cold water flow during the summer in our perennial streams



Introduction (cont'd)

- Usable groundwater throughout most of Region.
- Individual groundwater contamination sites associated with leaking underground storage tanks, wood treatment facilities, dry cleaning operations, unlined landfills, and others.
- Incomplete understanding of shallow groundwater quality in the Region.



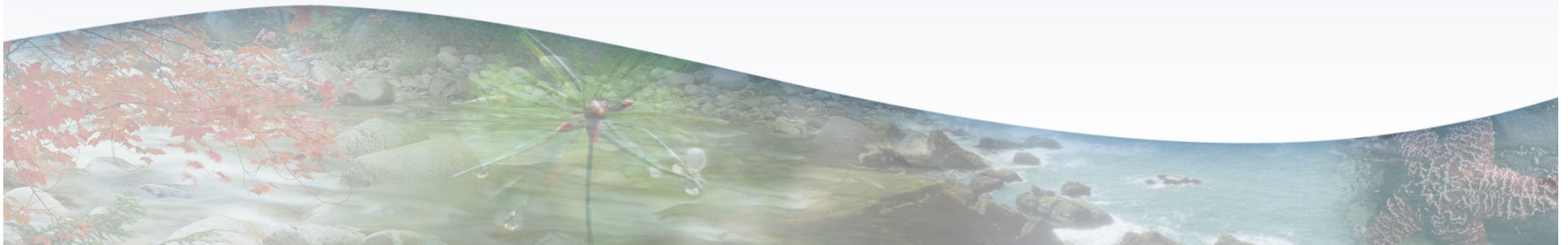
Regulatory Background

- Antidegradation Policy (Res. No. 68-16)
- North Coast Water Quality Control Plan
- Sources of Drinking Water Policy (Res. No. 88-63)
- Policies and Procedures for Cleanup
(Res. No. 92-49)
- State Implementation Policy for NTR and
CTR (2005)
- Recycled Water Policy (Res. No. 09-11) and
amendment
- Onsite Waste Treatment System Policy
(Res. No. 12-32)



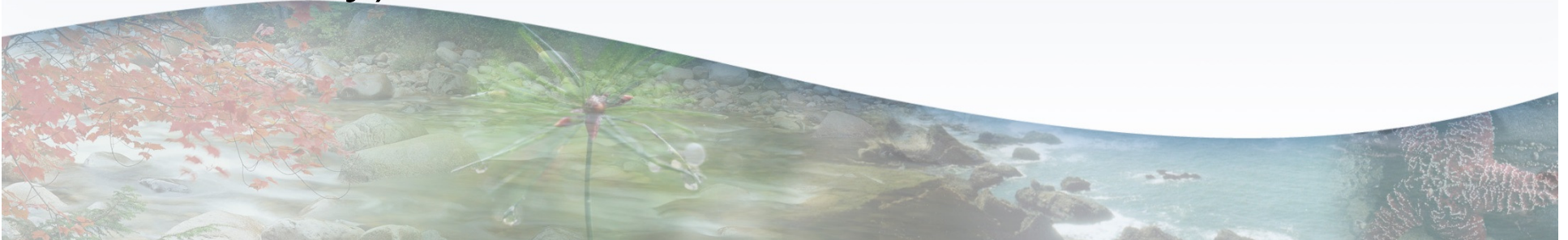
Basin Planning Approach

- Groundwater and Surface Water Quality Objective and Implementation Plans
 - Includes substantive and editorial changes
- 2008 Triennial Review Priority
- Began work in 2009
- Held public scoping meetings in 2010
 - Split Amendment into Phases I & II



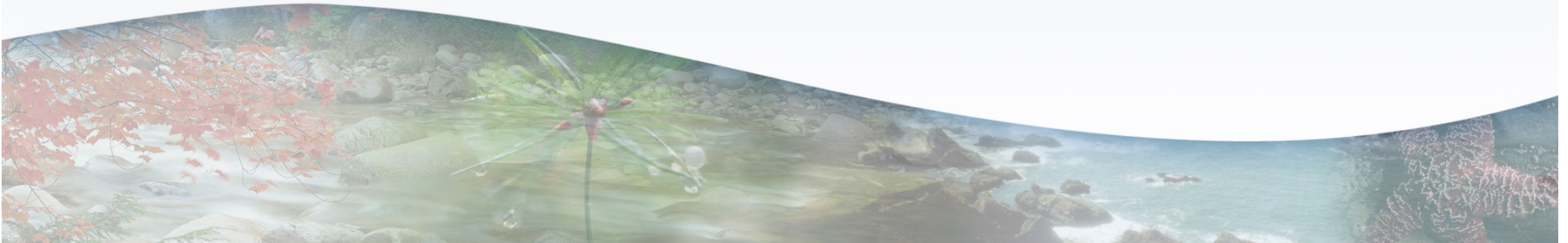
Basin Planning Approach Phase I

- Proposed changes to Chapters 3 & 4
- Primary goal of Phase I is to update objectives to better harmonize Basin Plan with State cleanup requirements and waste discharge permitting
 - Update Chemical Constituents Objective
 - Add GW toxicity objective
 - Clarify process staff uses to translate narrative objectives into numeric limits (Narrative WQO Policy)



Basin Planning Approach Phase II

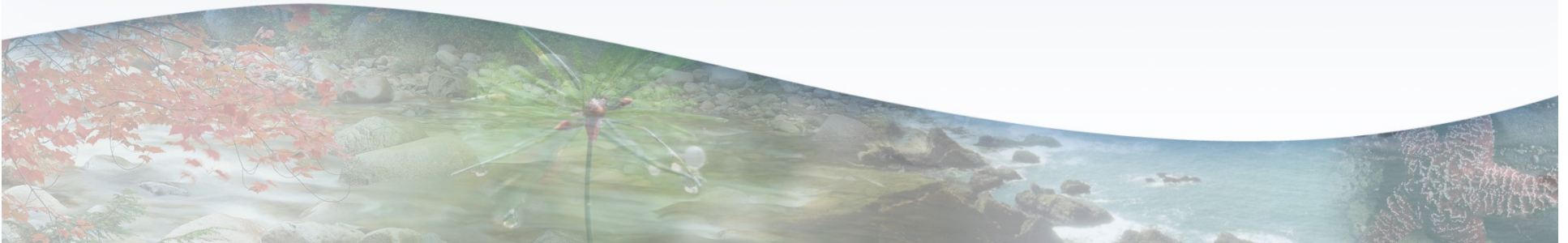
- Proposed changes to Chapter 4
- Revisions, Reorganization & Updates
 - Add Waste Discharge Prohibition
 - Add Implementation Program for Waste Discharges to Land Including Recycled Water Policy
 - Add OWTS Policy



Agenda Item No. 8

Phase I Purpose of Amendment

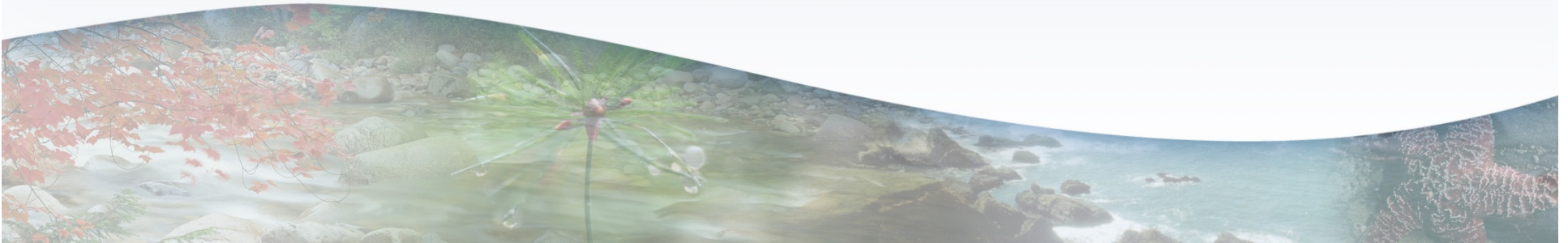
- Harmonize Basin Plan with State requirements
- Existing WQOs in Chapter 3 of Basin Plan
 - Numeric chemical constituents objectives are an outdated subset of MCLs identified for the protection of MUN
 - Footnote to Table 3-2 indicates application of more stringent criteria and policies



Phase I

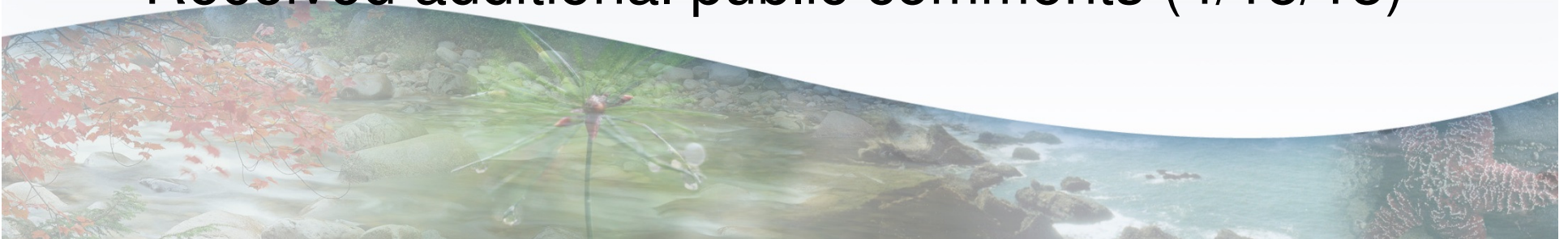
Purpose of Amendment

- Proposed revised WQOs
 - Update chemical constituents objective to protect all beneficial uses
 - Ensure MCLs are most recent published criteria
 - Add groundwater toxicity objective to better support identification of most appropriate and protective criteria
 - Add narrative translation policy to more transparently describe the logical process staff uses when identifying appropriate and protective criteria



Phase I Background

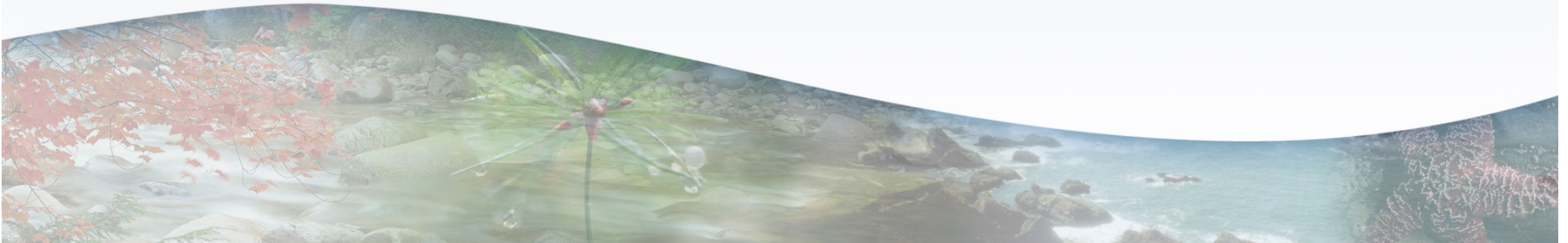
- Staff Workshop on draft amendment (2/2012),
 - Public comments received March 2012
- Staff revisions to draft amendment and SED based on comments
 - 2012, including revisions based on impending court case in Region 5
- Public release of proposed amendment and SED (2/2013)
- Held a meeting with commenters (4/8/13)
- Received additional public comments (4/15/13)



Phase I

Areas of Stakeholder Interest

- Prospective Incorporation of MCLs
- General Chemical Constituents objective
- Narrative Translator
- Beneficial Uses
- Water Quality Objectives
- Antidegradation
- CEQA Analysis and 13241 analysis



Phase I Next Iteration

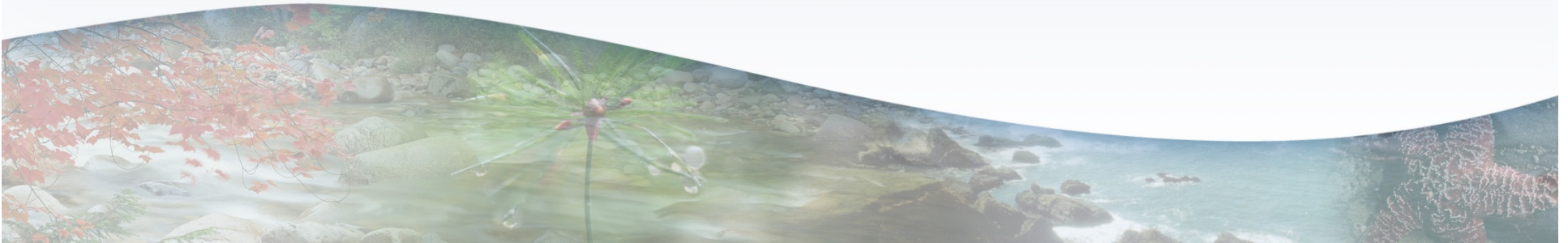
- Technical Issues
 - Further refine proposed basin plan language to more clearly articulate our approach to implementing antideg, statewide cleanup requirements, protection of drinking water sources, and others
 - Consider addition of DO objective
 - Re-package editorial revisions to chapters 1 & 2
- Legal Issues
 - Expand Neg Dec-Level CEQA to Mitigated Neg Dec Level
 - Update 13241 Analysis to reflect altered CEQA
 - Update Economic Analysis to reflect altered CEQA



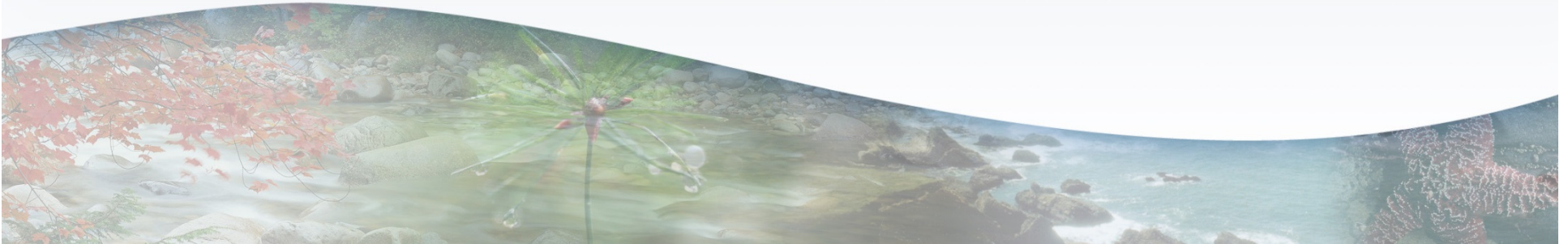
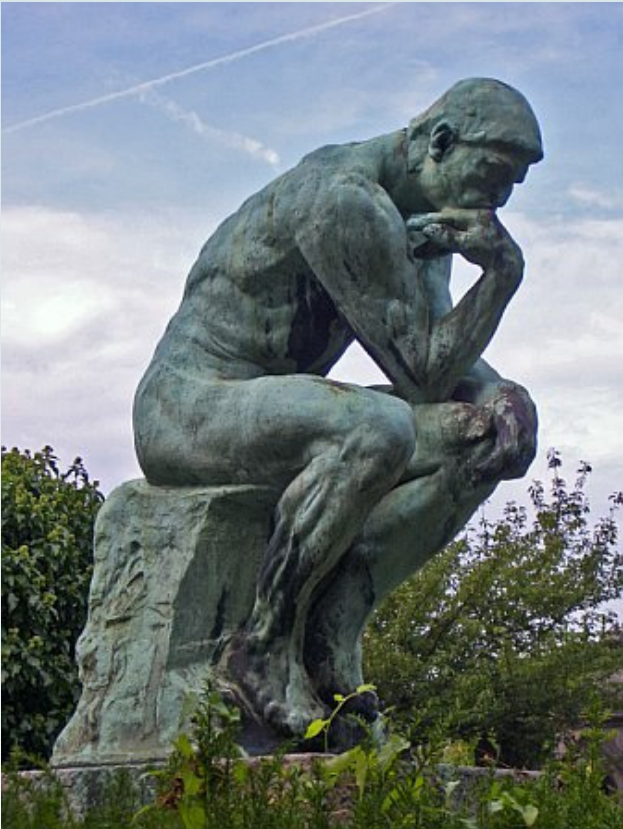
Phase I

Next Steps

- Revise Documents (Summer / Fall 2013)
- Board Workshop (Winter 2013)
- Release revised documents for public comment (winter 2013)
- Board Hearing (Spring 2014)

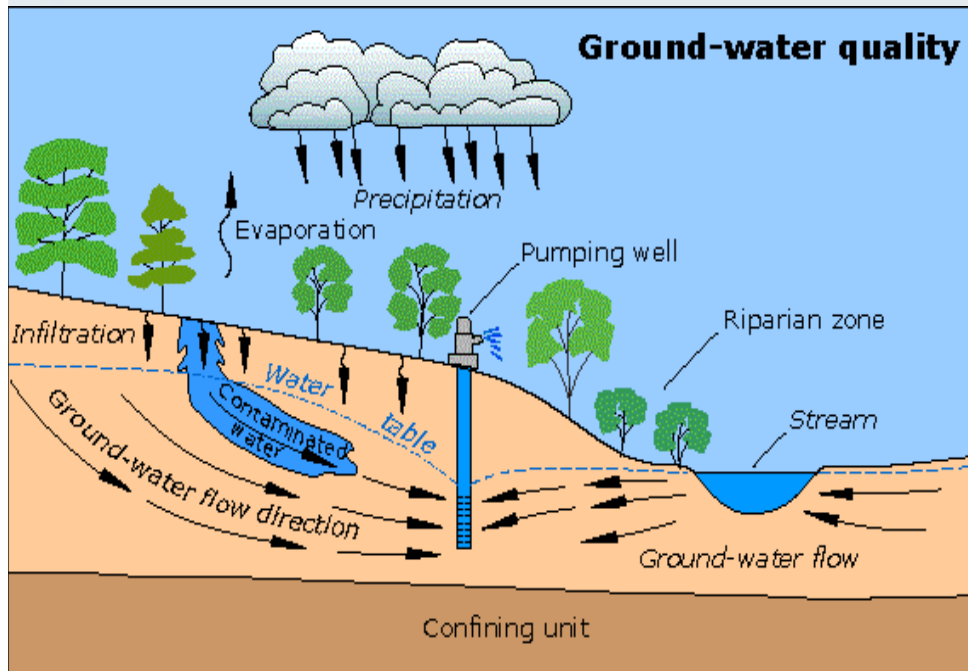


Questions on Phase I



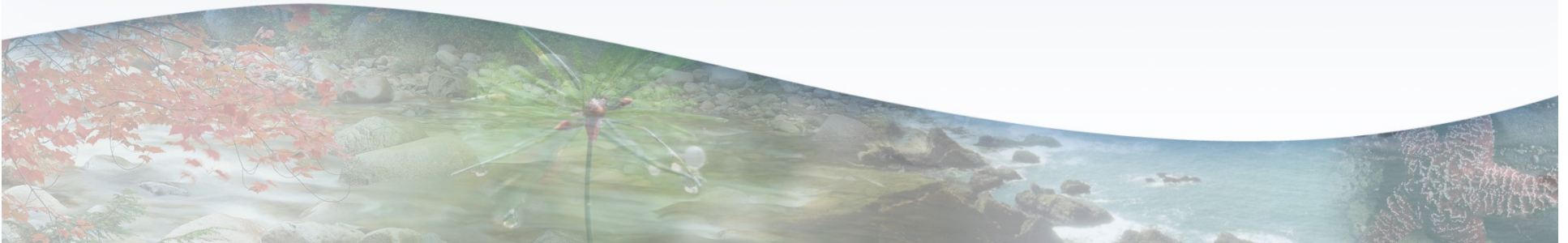
Agenda Item No. 9 - Basin Plan Amendment Update, Implementation Plans to Address Groundwater and Surface Water Protection

Jeremiah J. Puget – Environmental Scientist



Overview of Phase II

- Add Introduction, Table of Contents, Revising Outdated Plans and Reorganize the Chapter
- Regional Prohibition
- Implementation Plan Addressing the Discharge of Waste to Land
- Incorporate Recycled Water Policy (e.g., add elements of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan requirements)
- Incorporate the OWTS Policy (Septic Systems)

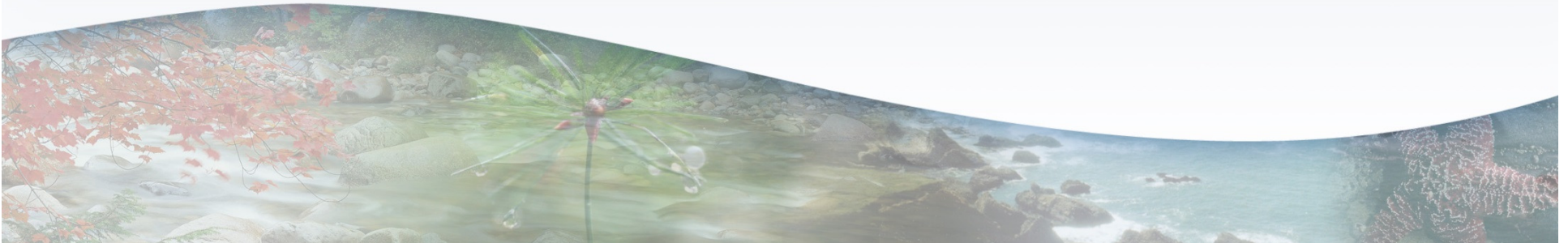


Chapter 4 - Implementation Plans: Edit and Reorganize

Improve readability, accuracy and usability.

Proposed changes to Chapter 4 include:

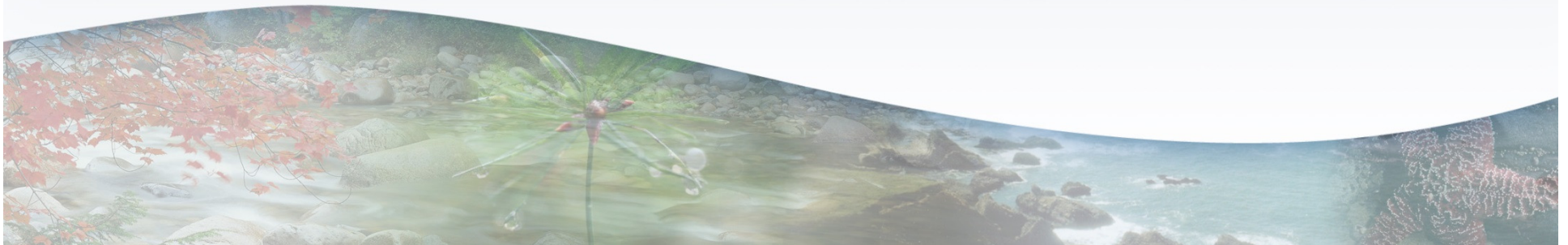
- Add table of contents and section numbers
- Add introduction
- Make editorial changes to outdated plans and policies
- Reorganize chapter
 - Add new section for regional policies
 - Organize point source and NPS programs, policies, etc.
 - Move TMDLs to their own section



Regional Prohibition

To support the attainment of the ambient water quality conditions and protect against serious and significant unpermitted threats to water quality.

- Addition of a regional prohibition of the discharge of waste in violation of Water Quality Objectives unless otherwise approved by the Regional Water Board
- First adopted in 2010 for the Klamath River Watershed
- Broadly supports groundwater protection and nonpoint source efforts



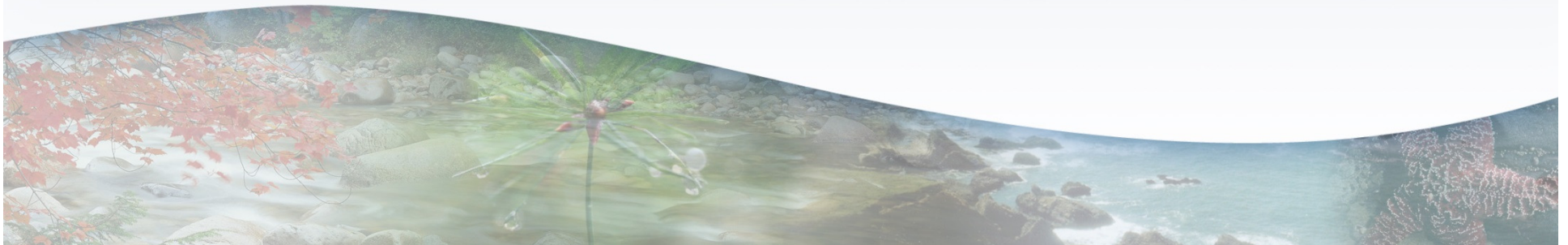
Implementation Plan to Control Discharge of Waste from Land Disposal Activities

To describe the procedures staff uses when developing waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste to land.

The existing basin plan is silent on the implementation procedures used to assess risk to groundwater

The proposed amendment would:

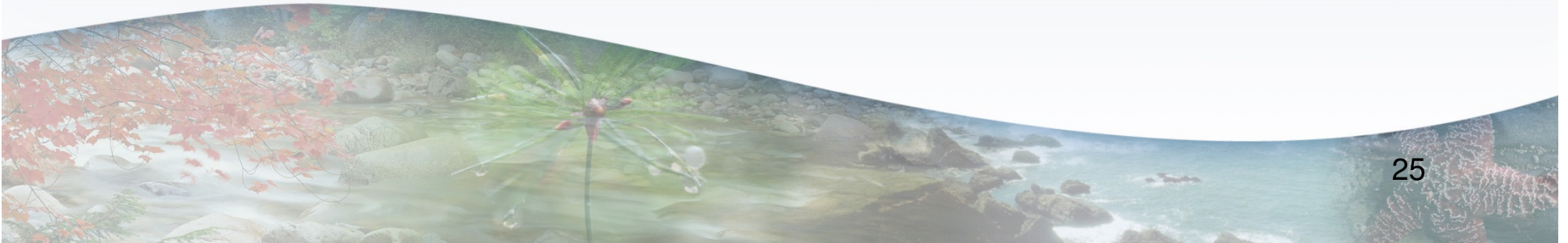
- Outline the approach to source identification, characterization of waste, assessment of potential impacts to water quality
- Produce industry specific guidance/fact sheets



The Recycled Water Policy

Promote the use of storm water, recycled water, and water conservation while managing salts, nutrients, and CECs.

- The Policy anticipated stakeholder groups would lead efforts for the development of Salt and Nutrient Management Plans in the region
- North Coast Regional Board requested designing a regional framework as an alternative approach
- Develop risk based approach to basin prioritization
- Establish policy framework within the implementation plan for discharges of waste to land



The Recycled Water Policy, cont.

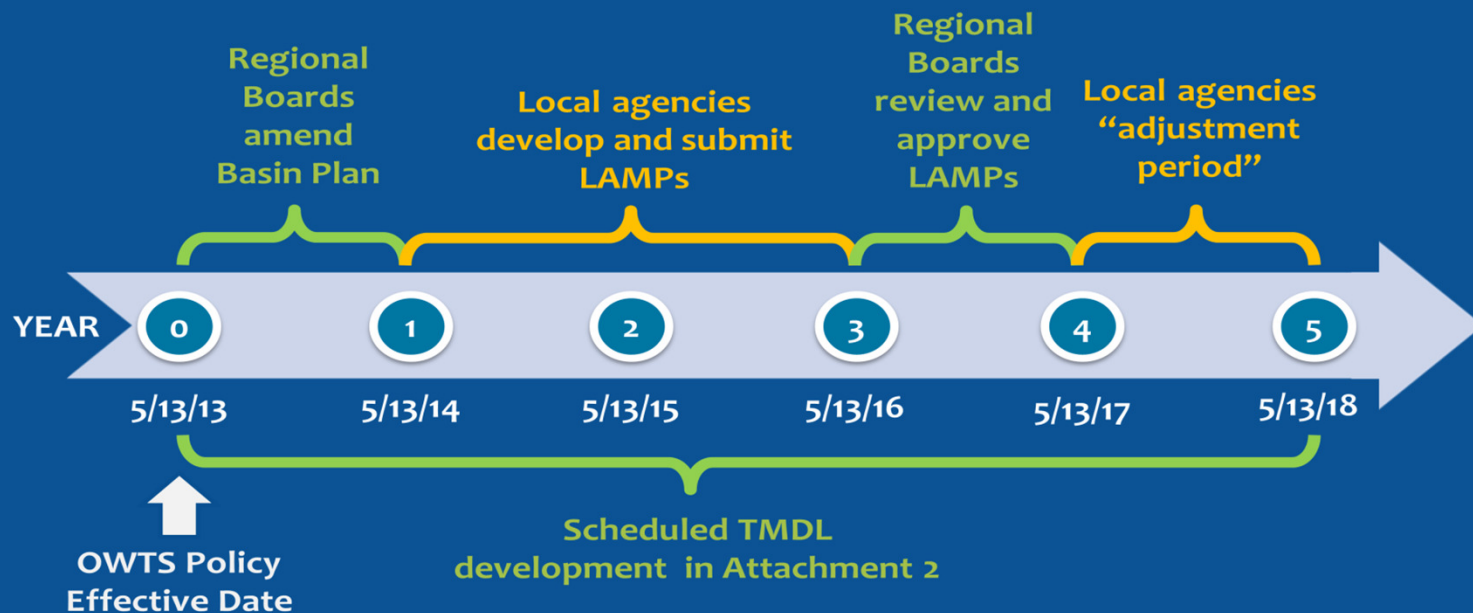
- Santa Rosa Plain groundwater basin 1-55.01 (DWR bulletin 118)
- City of Santa Rosa - SNMP
- Sonoma County Water Agency - Ground Water Management Plan



Onsite Waste Treatment System Policy

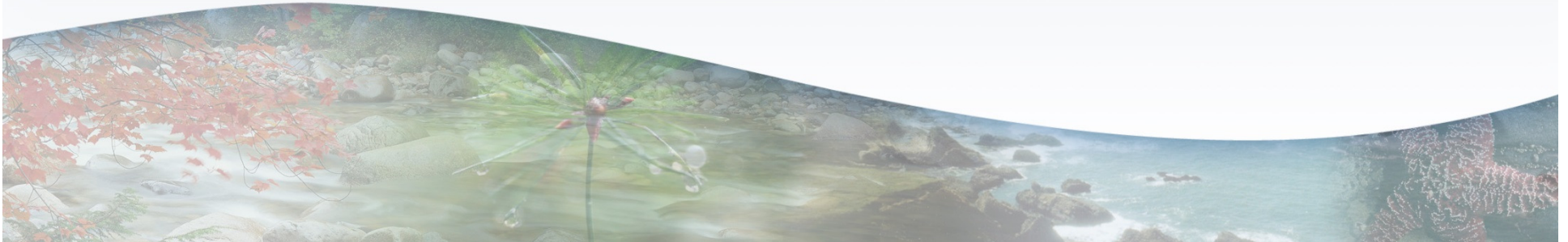
- Ensure properly functioning OWTS for protection of health and the environment and statewide consistency
- Adopted June 2012 / Effective May 2013 / Amend May 2014

OWTS Policy Implementation Timeline Initial Five Year Period



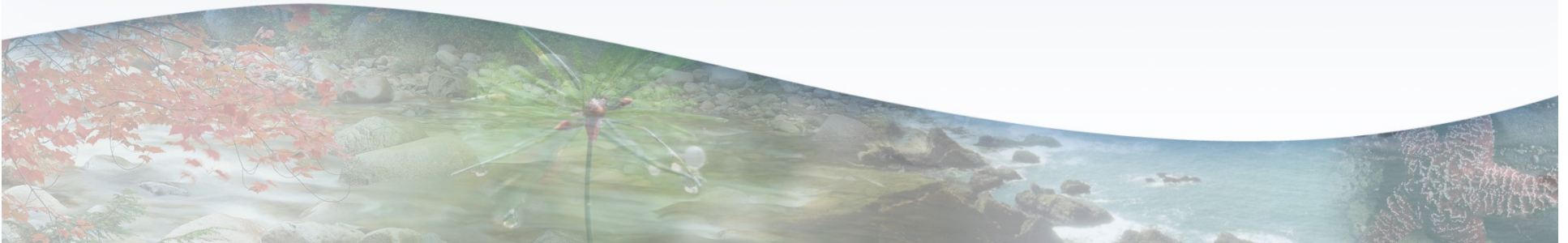
Onsite Waste Treatment System Policy

- Review and amend existing North Coast Policy
- Modified role for local agencies
- Modified role for Regional Water Board
- Septic systems in the Russian River Watershed will continue to be regulated under the existing basin plan policy until adoption of the Pathogen TMDL



Phase II- Next Steps

- Refine project schedule and reassemble project team(s)
- Draft Basin Plan Amendment language
- Conduct environmental analyses, including regional assessment of groundwater quality based on existing data
- Conduct stakeholder outreach
- Prepare Substitute Environmental Document (SED)
- Hold a public workshop before the Board
- Hold a public hearing on the proposed amendment



Questions on Phase 2

